

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
/058 W

-----073170 151944Z /64

P R 151726Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2225

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 5488

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PGOV PINT PO

SUBJECT: CDS WILL PUSH FOR CHANGE

REF: LISBON 5433 (DTG 141701Z JUL 77)

SUMMARY: CDS INSIDER CUNHA REIS SAID THAT
THE CENTER DEMOCRATS HAD DECIDED TO OPPOSE THE SOCIALISTS
DOWN THE LINE, AND THAT SA CARNEIRO WAS ALSO COMMITTED
TO A "NO" VOTE IN ORDER TO BRING DOWN THE GOVERNMENT.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE CDS OFFENSIVE, INCREASED SOCIALIST
FLEXIBILITY AND THE INTEREST OF MANY PSD LEADERS
IN AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SOCIALISTS FAVOR A
AN ACCOMMODATION. END SUMMARY.

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1. CDS TAKES RIGID STAND: CAETANO CUNHA REIS, AIDE
TO CDS PRESIDENT, TOLD EMBOFF JULY 15 THAT THE CDS POLITICAL
COMMITTEE HAD DECIDED BY ACCLAMATION JULY 13 TO VOTE
AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT'S AGRARIAN REFORM AND ECONOMIC
PLAN PROPOSALS UNLESS EVERY ONE OF THE CDS DEMANDS FOR
MODIFICATION WAS MET. REIS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE SOCIALISTS
HAD OPENED NEGOTIATIONS IN THE PAST FEW DAYS ON THE OVERALL

SHAPE OF LEGISLATION (REFTEL.

HOWEVER, FREITAS DO AMARAL AND SA CARNEIRO WERE CONSULTING REGULARLY ON THE RESULTS OF THEIR CONVERSATIONS WITH SOARES. SA CARNEIRO TOLD AMARAL JULY 13 THE PSD WOULD VOTE WITH THE CDS IN REJECTING THE AGRARIAN REFORM LAW IN ORDER TO FORCE A GOVERNMENTAL CHANGE. REIS BELIEVED THAT A PS-PSD-CDS AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT A MORE BROADLY BASED GOVERNMENT WAS LIKELY. THIS WOULD RESULT FROM EITHER A DEFEAT OF THE KEY GOVERNMENT MEASURES AND SUBSEQUENT PRESIDENTIAL PRESSURE UPON THE SOCIALISTS, OR FROM A PRIOR PS DECISION TO REACH A NEW UNDERSTANDING WITH THE PSD AND CDS ON THE SHAPE AND POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT.

2. AGRARIAN REFORM DEBATE: DURING THE JULY 14 DEBATE IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE THE CDS SPECIFIED SEVERAL AREAS OF THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL WHICH IT WISHED TO MODIFY, INCLUDING A REDUCTION IN THE AGRICULTURE MINISTER' AUTHORITY. PSD DEPUTY MONTEIRO ANDRADE STATED THAT THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL IS CONSISTENT WITH PSD AGRARIAN POLICY. HE SAID THAT THE PSD WOULD PRESENT PROPOSALS TO ALTER A NUMBER OF ARTICLES BU T EMPHASIZED THE PSD'S POSITIVE STAND IN RELATION TO THE GOVERNMENT'S AGRARIAN REFORM PROPOSAL. A PSD INSIDER TOLD EMBOFF JULY 14 THAT THE PS AND PSD POLITICAL COMMITTEES BEGAN CONFIDENTIAL

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MEETING JULY 13 TO DISCUSS THEIR OVERALL APPROACH TO THE AGRARIAN REFORM LAW AND THE ECONOMIC PLAN.

3. COMMENT: NOTWITHSTANDING THE CDS OFFENSIVE, THERE ARE STRONG FACTORS FAVORING AN ACCOMMODATION. THE SOCIALISTS HAVE DEMONSTRATED NEW FLEXIBILITY BY WITHDRAWING THEIR ECONOMIC PLAN AND OPENING BROAD-GAUGED NEGOTIATIONS (REF). MOREOVER, MANY PSD LEADERS ARE ANXIOUS TO WORK OUT AN ACCEPTABLE ARRANGEMENT WITH THE SOCIALISTS. CARLUCCI

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY LINE, POLITICAL PARTIES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 15-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LISBON05488
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770754/aaaabubs.tel
Line Count: 104
Litigation Code IDs:
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LISBON 5433
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1850744
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CDS WILL PUSH FOR CHANGE
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PO
To: STATE BONN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1b4ec06a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009